

David Cotterrell: Mirror V (v)

Collaborators: Ruwanthie de Chickera

Date: 13th September 2019

Materials:

Single Channel Video, Four-Channel Sound, MacMini, Ultrasonic Speakers, Custom fabricated screen.

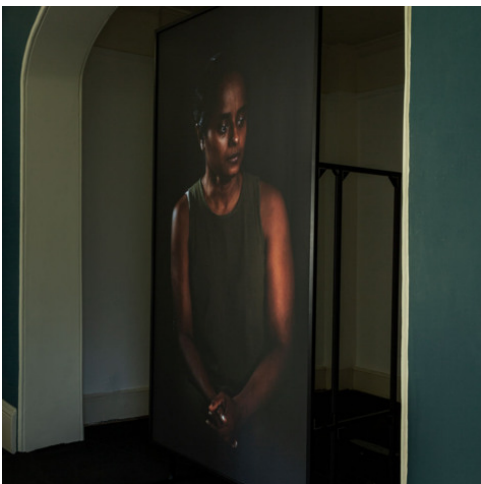
Mirror V : Translation is a single screen, multi-channel audio, visual art installation that considers the politics of translation and the illusion of objectivity. It was created for the exhibition, Truth.Lie.Lie at Danielle Arnaud gallery, London. For the development of Mirror V : Translation Two Sri-Lankan actors, were filmed performing monologues in Colombo. Their words were then translated multiple times into English and recorded by Sri-Lankan/UK actors in London.

The installation offered an experiment in partial translation. Two Sinhala monologues, filmed in Sri Lanka, are presented consecutively in the gallery. The ambient noise of Colombo and the original voices of the actors is audible. Orientated around the space, ultrasonic speakers create zones of sound which present a translated narrative to the viewer. Three similar but distinct translations are available to recontextualise the direct-to-camera monologues. Through error, omission and interpretation, the installation focusses on the subjectivity of translation, the power to objectify and our ability to perceive threat

Mirror V: Translation is the latest of the Mirror installations (2015-present) developed as part of cotterrell's ongoing collaboration with the playwright, Ruwanthie de Chickera.

Cast: Monologues performed by Nadie Kammallaweera, Akalanka Prabashwara (Sri Lanka) and Hiran Mihindu, Piyumi Samaraweera (UK).

Production Team: Camera: Pramila Samarakoon; Lighting and Production: Prauda Buwaneka



Mirror V installed at Danielle Arnaud gallery, London (2020)



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